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The Urban District Council of Hexham

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# ANNUAL REPORT

of

THE MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

For the Year 1962



J. M. McEwan, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health

## **STAFF**

J. M. McEWAN, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

H. MITCHELL

Senior Public Health Inspector

J. K. PATTERSON

Assistant Public Health Inspector

A. SUMMERS

Clerk

*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council  
of Hexham :*

MR. CHAIRMAN, GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year ending 31st December, 1962.

In an ancient and historic town such as Hexham a year is a short time, and it is not surprising that there is little change in local circumstances to report. The population increased during the year by 58, but the total remains a little below 10,000. The health of the community is satisfactory, and the town is prosperous. Hexham is the shopping and administrative centre for a large agricultural area, and the main sources of employment are the distributive trades and agriculture and allied industries. The Council wish however to broaden the scope of employment, and have scheduled and purchased an area for industrial development. If suitable light industry is attracted, this, together with the establishment in the neighbourhood of the new factory for wood products, will assure continued employment and prosperity.

The birth rate continues to be a little below and the death rate a little above the national average, which confirms the impression that Hexham has rather more than the average number of elderly residents. The Council appreciate this and are making special provision for the housing of the aged.

There was one death in infancy due to tuberculous meningitis, the result of infection from an adult in the household who delayed seeking medical advice and himself died of pulmonary tuberculosis. This unfortunate occurrence indicates that the control of tuberculosis is still a public health problem. The infant mortality rate is one-third of the figure for England and Wales, and is the second lowest on record, but too much importance should not be attached to the figure for a single year. The deaths generally followed the expected pattern, with diseases of the heart and circulation the most frequent causes of death, but for the first time for many years there was a death in childbirth : the infrequency of this tragedy makes it none the less sad.

The control of infectious disease remains an essential part of the work of the Health Department, but has become less time-consuming with the changing pattern of disease.



Small numbers of several infections were notified during the year, and call for no special comment. The more serious and alarming infectious diseases were again absent, due in part to improved environmental hygiene but in the main to the high rate of acceptance by parents of the protective vaccination and immunisation provided by the County Council and the local general practitioners.

The relatively large number of notifications of tuberculosis — eight of pulmonary and three of non-pulmonary disease — require some explanation. No less than six of the pulmonary cases occurred in two households, and seven were of primary infection in children. While much can be done in the way of modern methods of prevention and treatment, the first essential remains that illness should be reported early to the family doctor. The incidence of non-pulmonary tuberculosis among children has almost disappeared with the establishment of tubercle-free herds, and of the three cases notified two were in adults and the third was of tuberculous meningitis infected from a human source. It is to be expected that referral for X-ray, the routine skin-testing of children and the investigation of contacts will bring to light unsuspected cases of tuberculosis, and the outlook for such cases is now very good. Children attending the Child Welfare Clinic now have an annual skin-test, and the test is also carried out on children on entry to school. The County Council recently decided to reduce the age for B.C.G. vaccination to 10 years, and during 1962 this protection was offered to children eligible in the Hexham schools and was largely accepted.

Only a few houses were built by the Council during 1962, and these were old people's bungalows. A further four bungalows for old people were built by the Henry Bell Trust. As the Council now own over one thousand houses, almost one-third of those in the town, it was to be expected that the rate of building of family houses would slacken. A number of schemes for building are however in preparation, chiefly of further bungalows but also for a few general purpose houses and for 28 houses to be built for sale. The site for the proposed sheltered accommodation for the frail elderly off Hencotes was the subject of enquiry during the year, and compulsory purchase has been approved. As more bungalows are built the need for this special accommodation grows, as it will house old people no longer able to live alone but not requir-

ing admission to a hospital or a home.

Work on the design for the new sewage treatment plant continued during the year. It will, though certainly necessary, be a very costly undertaking.

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company as statutory water undertakers have maintained a supply satisfactory in quality and quantity. Very frequent sampling is done by the Company, but the Health Department also take regular samples and report the result to the Company. The great majority of properties already have a mains water supply, but a small extension to supply a number of properties in the South of the town was approved during the year. The Council remain responsible for the few private supplies, which are sampled regularly. Should any remedial action be necessary the appropriate advice is given.

In submitting this report I should like once more to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council for the active interest they take in the work of the Health Department, and to acknowledge the co-operation and help received from the Clerk and other officers. The staff of the Department continue to give willing and efficient service.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. McEWAN,

*Medical Officer of Health.*

## STATISTICAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres .. .. .	5,932
Estimated Population .. .. .	9,690

### Vital Statistics

#### BIRTHS :

LIVE BIRTHS						
LIVE BIRTHS			M.	F.		Total
Legitimate.. .. .	..	..	68	66	..	134
Illegitimate .. .. .	..	..	2	4	..	6
						<hr/>
						140
STILL BIRTHS						Total
Legitimate.. .. .	..	..	—	3	..	3
Illegitimate .. .. .	..	..	—	—	..	—
						<hr/>
						3
						<hr/>

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population .. .. .	14.3
Total Live and Still Births .. .. .	143
Total (Live and Still) Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population .. .. .	14.6
Still-births Rate per 1,000 live and still-births .. .. .	21.1
Live Birth Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 population .. .. .	18.0
Still-births Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 live and still-births .. .. .	18.1

#### DEATHS :

Total Deaths .. .. .	135
Total infant deaths.. .. .	1
Infant deaths under four weeks .. .. .	Nil.
Deaths of infants under one year of age :—	
Legitimate infants .. .. .	1
Illegitimate infants .. .. .	Nil.
Infantile Mortality per 1,000 live births .. .. .	7.2
Infantile Mortality, England and Wales, per 1,000 live births .. .. .	21.4
Infantile Mortality (Legitimate) per 1,000 live births .. .. .	7.2
Infantile Mortality (Illegitimate) per 1,000 live births .. .. .	Nil.

Infantile Mortality (first four weeks) per 1,000 live births .. .. .	Nil.
Infantile Mortality (under one week of age) per 1,000 live births .. .. .	Nil.
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still-births and deaths under one week combined) per 1,000 total live and still-births .. .. .	21.1
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births..	4.3%
Deaths from Maternal causes.. .. .	1
Maternal mortality rate per 1,000 live and still-births .. .. .	7.06
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .. .. .	21
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (all causes and ages) .. .. .	12.9
Death Rate, England and Wales, per 1,000 population (all causes and ages) .. .. .	11.9

The following Table classifies deaths according to their age groups and as to their certification :—

	CERTIFIED		UNCERTIFIED	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
0—1	—	1	—	—
1—2	—	—	—	—
2—5	—	—	—	—
5—15	1	—	—	—
15—25	2	—	—	—
25—45	3	1	—	—
45—50	2	1	—	—
50—55	4	—	1	—
55—60	3	3	1	—
60—65	3	4	—	—
65—70	7	9	1	—
70—75	7	15	—	—
75—80	13	12	1	—
80—85	9	10	—	—
85—90	5	14	—	—
90—95	—	—	—	—
95—100	—	2	—	—
	59	72	4	—



The chief causes of death are as follows :—

	M.	F.
Tuberculosis of resp. system .. .. .	I	—
Tuberculosis, other .. .. .	—	I
Syphilitic disease .. .. .	—	—
Diphtheria .. .. .	—	—
Whooping Cough .. .. .	—	—
Meningococcal infections .. .. .	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis .. .. .	—	—
Measles .. .. .	—	—
Other infective and parasitic disease .. .. .	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach .. .. .	2	I
"    "    lung, bronchus .. .. .	3	3
"    "    breast .. .. .	—	2
"    "    uterus .. .. .	—	I
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .. .. .	5	4
Leukaemia, aleukaemia .. .. .	—	—
Diabetes .. .. .	—	I
Vascular lesions of nervous system .. .. .	8	19
Coronary disease, angina .. .. .	18	18
Hypertension with heart disease .. .. .	2	I
Other heart disease .. .. .	8	6
Other circulatory disease .. .. .	3	6
Influenza .. .. .	—	—
Pneumonia .. .. .	3	I
Bronchitis .. .. .	I	I
Other diseases of respiratory system .. .. .	—	I
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. .. .	2	—
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .. .. .	—	I
Nephritis and nephrosis .. .. .	I	—
Hyperplasia of prostate .. .. .	I	—
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. .. .	—	I
Congenital malformations .. .. .	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .. .. .	3	3
Motor vehicle accidents .. .. .	I	—
All other accidents .. .. .	—	I
Suicide .. .. .	I	—
Homicide and operations of war .. .. .	—	—
All causes .. .. .	63	72
TOTAL .. .. .	135	



INFANT MORTALITY DURING YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1962.

**Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under 1 year.**

[illegible]

## VITAL &amp; MORTALITY STATISTICS.

Year	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infant Mortality Rate
1942	11.9	12.9	64.5
1943	13.2	12.8	50.7
1944	14.0	13.6	37.5
1945	13.2	11.8	15.4
1946	16.6	12.4	18.5
1947	18.5	14.3	54.9
1948	17.7	12.2	12.4
1949	13.9	17.3	39.4
1950	16.0	13.7	53.0
1951	14.1	13.6	38.2
1952	13.7	11.4	62.0
1953	13.2	11.09	24.0
1954	12.7	10.8	33.05
1955	14.2	10.7	22.3
1956	13.7	13.05	15.2
1957	15.4	12.2	27.2
1958	13.2	14.7	32.3
1959	15.8	12.06	40.6
1960	15.9	12.4	6.6
1961	13.7	13.9	15.3
1962	14.3	12.9	7.2

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED (other than Tuberculosis) DURING THE YEAR 1962.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASE.	At all Ages.	Under 1.	1 to 2.	2 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 & upward	Age not known
Scarlet Fever ...	4	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1
Whooping Cough ...	14	1	1	6	6	1	1	1	1	1
Diphtheria ...	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	1	1
Measles ...	3	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	1	1
Pneumonia ...	7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	1
Cerebro-spinal Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Acute poliomyelitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Acute polioencephalitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Acute Encephalitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Lethargica ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Dysentery ...	5	1	1	1	4	1	1	1	1	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Smallpox ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Paratyphoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Typhoid Fever	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Erysipelas ...	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Meningitis	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Malaria	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
TOTALS ...	36	2	2	10	13	1	1	3	5	1

INFECTIOUS DISEASES 1942-1962.

Year.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Measles	Ac. Pneumonia	Cerebrospinal Fever.	Acute Polio- myelitis	Acute Polio- encephalitis	Acute Encephalitis	Dysentery	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Pyrexia	Smallpox	Paratyphoid Fever	Enteric Typhoid Fever or	Erysipelas	Food Poisoning	Meningitis
1942	12	1	15	6	39	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1943	17	7	3	116	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1944	18	1	17	—	5	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1945	34	—	1	8	7	1	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
1946	7	24	1	93	7	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
1947	6	18	1	29	5	—	26	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
1948	7	31	—	60	4	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—
1949	12	7	—	298	10	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	59	—
1950	14	7	—	10	1	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—
1951	9	18	—	143	7	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
1952	5	17	—	86	4	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1953	29	51	—	9	7	—	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—
1954	5	14	—	6	5	—	3	—	—	24	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
1955	4	18	—	103	4	1	1	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1956	1	3	—	—	9	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
1957	8	1	—	102	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1958	9	39	—	1	10	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1959	—	4	—	113	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1960	2	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
1961	1	—	—	222	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
1962	4	14	—	3	7	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—



## TUBERCULOSIS, 1942-1962

Year	New Cases		Deaths	
	Pulmonary	Other	Pulmonary	Other
1942	6	2	6	—
1943	15	2	4	—
1944	10	1	4	—
1945	8	2	5	—
1946	6	1	4	1
1947	6	—	3	1
1948	7	4	6	1
1949	6	6	1	—
1950	7	5	2	—
1951	3	2	1	—
1952	4	2	—	—
1953	5	8	1	—
1954	4	1	—	—
1955	14	2	—	—
1956	7	4	1	—
1957	6	1	—	1
1958	10	2	—	—
1959	7	2	—	—
1960	3	—	—	—
1961	11	—	1	—
1962	8	3	1	1

## TUBERCULOSIS.—New cases and Mortality during 1962 :—

Age periods	New Cases				Nett Deaths in Hexham Urban District			
	Pulmonary		Non Pulm.		Pulmonary		Non Pulm.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—I ..	—	—	—	I	—	—	—	1
I—5 ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—I5 ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
I5—25 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35 ..	I	—	—	I	—	—	—	—
35—45 ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55 ..	—	—	—	—	I	—	—	—
55—65 ..	—	I	—	I	—	—	—	—
65 & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS ..	3	5	—	3	I	—	—	1

	Cases Notified	Deaths
Gilesgate Ward .. ..	I	—
Leazes Ward .. ..	1	—
Priestpottle Ward ..	2	2
Hencotes Ward ..	7	—
	II	2

**FOOD POISONING NOTIFICATIONS (CORRECTED)  
RETURNED TO REGISTRAR GENERAL**

1ST QTR. Nil.	2ND QTR. Nil.	3RD QTR. Nil.	4TH QTR. Nil.	TOTAL Nil.
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## OUTBREAKS DUE TO IDENTIFIED AGENTS

Total Outbreaks—Nil.	Total Cases—Nil.	Total Deaths—
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## OUTBREAKS DUE TO :—

(a) Chemical Poisons .. ..	Nil.
(b) Salmonella Organisms .. ..	Nil.
(c) Staphylococci (including toxin) .. ..	Nil.
(d) Cl. Botulinum .. ..	Nil.
(e) Other Bacteria .. ..	Nil.

## OUTBREAKS OF UNDISCOVERED CAUSE :

Total Outbreaks—Nil.	Total Cases—Nil.	Total Deaths—Nil.
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## SINGLE CASES :

Agent identified—Nil.	Unknown cause—Nil.	Total—Nil.
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## HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA

### 1. Hospitals

There are in the district two hospitals, namely the Hexham General Hospital and the Hexham War Memorial Hospital under the management of the Hexham and District Hospital Management Committee. These hospitals together with others in the area under the Hexham and District Hospital Management Committee and the Newcastle group of hospitals are available to cases from the area.

Cases of infectious diseases requiring admission to hospital are referred to the City Hospital for Infectious Diseases, Newcastle upon Tyne.

### 2. Ambulance Service

The British Red Cross acting as agents for the Northumberland County Council provide an ambulance service which serves the district. An ambulance station is situated at West Orchard, Hexham.

### 3. Home Help Service

The Northumberland County Council Home Help Service is in operation in the district. Home Helps are available to householders where such help is required owing to illness or confinement and their services are obtained through the office of the West Area Health Sub-Committee.

### 4. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics

The following Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics are held in the district :

CHILD WELFARE CLINIC :—Abbey House, Hexham, Friday, 9-30 a.m.—12 a.m. and 1-30 p.m.—4 p.m.

ANTE-NATAL CLINIC :—Abbey House, Hexham, first Tuesday in every month, 1-30 p.m.—4 p.m., first four Wednesdays in every month, 1-30 p.m.—4 p.m.

### 5. Midwifery and Home Nursing

These services are now administered by the Northumberland County Council and in this district are combined. There are two Nurse Midwives working in the Hexham Urban District.

# REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

(MR. H. MITCHELL)

## **Milk — Special Designations :**

The Special Designation (Specified Areas) (No. 2) Order 1962, is now in operation and this completes the programme for the whole of England and Wales. This means that only specially designated milk may now be sold by retail anywhere in the country. Such milks are tuberculin tested milk, which is untreated, and pasteurized and sterilized milks, which are treated by heat. This is a considerable achievement, made possible by the Minister of Health and the Minister of Agriculture acting jointly, and it is made more remarkable because this revolution has taken place so quietly and smoothly within a few years.

The Fatstock Marketing Corporation continues to use the Council's abattoir for the slaughter of livestock and a very high proportion of the carcase meat and offal is exported to London, Newcastle and other wholesale centres. The abattoir is recognised as a Deadweight Certification Centre by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, and a grading officer of the Ministry is employed permanently in that capacity at Hexham.

On 1st September, 1962, the Fatstock Marketing Corporation commenced to operate the abattoir under a lease granted by the Council. The Corporation also started work on the improvements made necessary by the new regulations, and by the end of the year much of these works were completed.



## INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Factories and Workplaces .. .. .	243
Milk and Dairies .. .. .	89
Drainage Works : Alterations—additions .. .. .	50
New Constructions .. .. .	110
Defective .. .. .	23
Water Supply .. .. .	61
Food Premises .. .. .	332
Shops .. .. .	246
Slaughter Houses and Knackers' Yards .. .. .	871
Moveable Dwellings .. .. .	113
Keeping of Animals .. .. .	4
Clean Air .. .. .	44
Offensive Trades .. .. .	9
Housing Visits, including Public Health and Housing Acts .. .. .	720
Disinfestation of Rats, Mice and other Vermin .. .. .	202

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

### Sanitary Circumstances

#### Drainage Works

New drains constructed .. .. .	15
Alterations/Additions .. .. .	28
Defective drains repaired .. .. .	9

#### Sanitary Conveniences

Additional baths provided .. .. .	6
Additional sinks provided .. .. .	7

### Testing of Drains

All sewers and drains are tested by smoke under pressure or by hydraulic test.

### Notifiable Diseases

Terminal disinfection is carried out when necessary in connection with cases of infectious disease investigated on notification. Faecal and other specimens collected are despatched forthwith to the public health laboratory at Newcastle General Hospital.

Number of faecal specimens reported upon .. .. .	204
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### Disinfestation

Approved insecticides are used in all cases for the eradication of vermin and parasites. The common house fly is still a nuisance, but is not now a serious problem. Precautionary measures were again taken during the year by the spraying of all refuse bins in the town.

## Water Supply

The Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company is the statutory water undertaker and the readily given co-operation of its officials in connection with the purity of the water supply has been greatly appreciated by the health department.

Samples are collected from various points in the town's mains and dispatched to the public health laboratory at Newcastle General Hospital for bacteriological examination and report.

Number of samples collected from public services ..	21
Number collected from private supplies .. ..	7
	<hr/>
	28
	<hr/>

All samples taken from the town's mains were reported upon as satisfactory.

## Typical Analyses of Water from Ladle Wells and Gunnerton

Samples taken at	<i>Gunnerton</i>	<i>Ladle Wells</i>
pH Value .. ..	7.0	5.9
Colour .. ..	3 °H.	0 °H.
Turbidity .. ..	0	0
Hardness .. ..	64	26
Alkalinity .. ..	32	15
Chloride .. ..	14	9
Sulphate .. ..	30	14
Ammonia .. ..	.06	.02
Iron .. ..	.02	.05
Manganese .. ..	< .05	Not detected
Oxygen Absorbed ..	0.4	0

These figures were provided by kind permission of Dr. A. T. Palin, Chemist to the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS

Systematic inspections of food premises and food factories have continued during the year and standards of such premises remain satisfactory.

## Food generally

Within the area are 123 food premises of various kinds, 63 of which are registered. In connection with food hygiene, both management and personnel have co-operated with your inspectorate in the administration of the regulations.

Types of food premises are :—

6	Bakehouses
11	Cafes and Hotels
3	Snack Bars
10	Butchers
16	Grocers
8	Greengrocers
3	Wet fish shops
2	Fried fish shops

## Ice-Cream

Three producers are registered in the area, and 44 shops are registered to sell pre-packed ice-cream. In all cases regular visits of inspection are made and the standard of hygiene is satisfactory. The Heat-treatment Regulations are carried out to the satisfaction of your inspectorate.

Number of premises registered during the year ..	3
Number of samples collected for examination ..	8

Results of examination :

Grade	I	..	8
„	II	..	—
„	III	..	—
„	IV	..	—

## Milk and Dairies

Hexham is situated within an area specified by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, in which all milk sold by retail must be “ specially designated ” milk, that is pasteurized, sterilized, or tuberculin tested milk.

Systematic sampling of milk is carried out for :

- (a) keeping quality
- (b) the efficiency of pasteurization

Number of samples collected for :

(a) Methylene-blue test .. ..	63
(c) Phosphatase test .. ..	2

## FOOD INSPECTION

	UNSOUND FOOD				Surrendered		Seized	Legal Pro- ceedings
					sts.	lbs.		
1	Beef (Home-killed)	..			444	9	—	—
2	Beef (Imported)	..			—	—	—	—
3	Mutton (Home-killed)	..			142	12	—	—
4	Mutton (Imported)	..			—	—	—	—
5	Pork	..	..	..	11	8	—	—
6	Game	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
7	Poultry	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
					lbs.	ozs.		
8	Fish	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
9	Fruit	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
10	Canned Goods	..	..	..	864	12	—	—
11	Bacon	..	..	..	5	—	—	—
12	Cheese	..	..	..	10	—	—	—
13	Butter	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
14	Lard	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
15	Eggs	..	..	..	—	—	—	—
16	Other Foods	..	..	..	6	12	—	—

TOTAL .. 662 st. 5 lbs. 8 oz.



# **CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART**

	Cattle excl'd'g Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
Number killed ..	3,584	280	120	6,844	617	11,445
Number inspected ..	3,606	286	120	6,873	619	11,504
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned .. ..	5	13	13	39	1	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. ..	63	73	2	72	15	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and and cysticerci ..	1.8	30.0	12.5	1.6	2.5	
<i>Tuberculosis only :</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned .. ..	Nil.	1	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. ..	11	15	Nil.	Nil.	1	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ..	.41	5.0	Nil.	Nil.	.1	
<i>C. Bovis</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .. ..	3	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration .. ..	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	
Generalised and totally condemned .. ..	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.	

## **NUMBER OF ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED AT THE ABATTOIR**

Steers	Heifers	Cows Bulls	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Rams Ewes	Pigs	Sows Boars
1,544	1,760	310	120	5,785	1,059	531	84

## SUMMARY OF UNSOUND MEAT AND OFFAL

	Tuberculosis	Other Diseases	Total
Cows .. ..	lbs. 1,057	lbs. 4,232	lbs. 5,289
Other Animals ..	390	17,311	17,701
TOTAL ..	1,447	21,543	22,990

All unsound meat and offal condemned at the Abattoir is collected by a processing firm from Gateshead where it is sterilized under supervision.

## TUBERCULOSIS IN COWS

	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962
Whole Carcasses condemned	20	24	16	22	11	6	3	5	3	5	—	1
Part Carcasses or organs affected ...	71	38	28	112	55	53	21	48	39	33	9	14
Percentage affected ...	26.3%	20.2%	15.7%	23.3%	14.6%	12.0%	6.3%	7.8%	11.3%	9.5%	3.1%	5%

## SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACTS, 1933-54

Renewals of Licences to Slaughter	..	..	II
New Licences granted	..	..	I

21  
**HOUSING**

**TABULAR STATEMENT FOR YEAR 1962**

NEW HOUSES COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR	With State Assistance	Unaided	Total
(a) By Local Authority ..	6	Nil.	6
(b) By any other Author- ority .. ..	Nil.	4	4
(c) By Private Persons ..	Nil.	15	15

Total Number of Inhabited Houses in District .. .. 3,198

Total Number of Houses owned by the Local Authority .. 1,017

**1.—Closing and Demolition of Houses**

(1) Number of houses demolished as a result of clearance Schemes .. .. .	Nil.
(Number of houses included in above which were from pre-war confirmed Clearance Areas) .. .. .	Nil.
(2) Number of houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure .. .. .	2
(3) Houses closed, including partial closure .. .. .	2
(4) Other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings..	Nil.

**2.—Reconditioning and Repair**

Number of unfit houses rendered fit by procedure under either Housing or Public Health Acts :

(1) As a result of informal action .. .. .	34
(2) By owners as a result of statutory action .. .. .	Nil.
(3) By local authority on default of owners .. .. .	Nil.

**3.—Inspection**

(1) Number of houses inspected and visited for defects under Public Health or Housing Acts .. .. .	62
(2) Number of houses and parts found to have defects ..	36
(3) Number of houses and parts found to be wholly unfit for human habitation .. .. .	2

**4.—Housing Act, 1949**

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

(a) *Discretionary* :

Applications submitted to local authority .. .. .	18
Applications rejected by local authority .. .. .	1
Applications approved .. .. .	17
Total number of applications approved in area since inception of scheme .. .. .	132

(b) *Standard*

Number of houses for which grants have been made during the year .. .. .	8
Total number to date .. .. .	18

### 5.—Families Rehoused during 1962

*Under points scheme :*

From private houses	..	..	..	..	..	10
From Council houses	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.

*Decanted from Council houses :*

For moral overcrowding	..	..	..	..	..	11
For under-occupation	..	..	..	..	..	9
For medical reasons	..	..	..	..	..	5
For other reasons	..	..	..	..	..	11

*To aged persons' bungalows :*

From Council houses	..	..	..	..	..	9
From private houses (includes 2 from other bungalows)						4

*Other cases :*

For medical reasons	..	..	..	..	..	6
Under eviction orders	..	..	..	..	..	2
From unfit houses	..	..	..	..	..	4
Key workers (include office staff)		..	..	..	..	3
For other reasons	..	..	..	..	..	2
Exchanges from private houses	..	..	..	..	..	4

*Applicants rehoused other than Urban Council :*

By other local authorities	..	..	..	..	..	2
Privately	..	..	..	..	..	10
Cancelled applications (deceased)		..	..	..	..	5

### 6.—Housing Repairs and Rents Acts, 1954 and the Rent Act, 1957

*Certificates of Disrepair :*

Number of applications for certificates	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Number granted	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Undertakings received	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.
Repairs completed. Cases terminated	..	..	..	..	..	Nil.



## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

	TYPE OF PROPERTY			
	Local authority	Dwelling houses	Business premises	Agricultural
Number of properties inspected .. ..	15	36	16	7
Number infested :				
Rats .. ..	3	18	9	2
Mice .. ..	1	12	9	Nil.
Number of treatments	4	49	48	Nil.
Total number of inspections .. ..	23	92	87	11

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

Under this act it is an offence to keep a pet shop except under the authority of a licence granted by a local authority. It applies to market stalls as well as established premises.

Number of licences granted .. .. . 1

## AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH AND WELFARE PROVISIONS), ACT, 1956.

No action was necessary during the year in connection with the administration of Sections 3 and 5 of the above Act.

Within the administrative area of the Urban Authority there are thirty-six farms and holdings, none of which is considered large enough to merit the construction of additional wash places and conveniences for the people engaged. In every case the occupier is most willing to allow the existing amenities to be used by the agricultural workers concerned.

**FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959.****Inspections** (including Inspections made by Public Health Inspector)

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(I) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. .. .	4	23	—	—
(II) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. .. .	70	168	—	—
(III) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Outworkers' Premises) ..	4	18	—	—
<b>TOTAL</b> ..	<b>78</b>	<b>209</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>—</b>

**CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND**

PARTICULARS	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				No. of cases in which pro- secutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M.I.	By H.M.I.	
Want of Cleanliness .. ..	4	4	—	—	—
Overcrowding .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable Temperature ..	3	3	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ..	4	3	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of Floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences—					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	4	3	—	—	—
(c) Not Separate for Sexes..	—	—	—	—	—
Other Offences (not including Offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—	—	—
TOTAL .. ..	16	14	—	—	—

Part VIII of the Act does not apply as there is no outwork in the district.

## BYE-LAWS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT

<i>Date Operative</i>	<i>Adopting Authority</i>	<i>Subject Matter of Byelaw</i>
7/5/03 ..	North'd County Council ..	Street betting Street obstructions Street music Lights on vehicles
3/11/27 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Tents, vans, sheds, and similar structures
11/2/32 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Slaughterhouses
4/8/32 ..	North'd County Council ..	Nuisance caused by wireless loud speakers. Gramophones in shops and licensed premises
1/5/39 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	New streets
1/7/39 ..	North'd County Council ..	Litter, etc.
1/12/46 ..	North'd County Council ..	Noisy animals
1/3/47 ..	North'd County Council ..	Nuisances contrary to public decency
1/12/49 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Markets
1/1/50 ..	North'd County Council ..	Bulls
24/4/50 ..	North'd County Council ..	Sale of Contraceptives in slot machine
17/7/50 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Sanitary and cleanly conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air
12/10/53 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Building Byelaws
1/5/56 ..	North'd and Tyneside River Board	Rubbish, refuse or litter
1/10/56 ..	North'd County Council ..	Employment of children
1/3/57 ..	North'd County Council ..	Discharge of fireworks, etc. in places of public entertainment
29/3/57 ..	North'd County Council ..	Sale of Coal
1/8/58 ..	Hexham U.D.C. ..	Building Byelaws — Smoke prevention
1/9/58 ..	North'd County Council ..	Deposit of mud and other material on highways
1/9/58 ..	Newcastle and Gates-Water Company ..	Prevention of waste, undue consumption, misuse or contamination of water
1/8/59 ..	North'd County Council ..	Preservation of road margins laid out for ornamental purposes
1/9/61 ..	North'd County Council ..	Fouling of footpaths by dogs.

### **CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACT, 1960.**

Three private holiday sites are operated in the area licensed by the local authority for eight months in each year, opening on 1st March and closing on 31st October.

The sites are well organised and the owners provide all the amenities asked for by the Council.

### **CLEAN AIR ACT, 1956.**

No action has yet been taken in connection with smoke control orders, and in the County of Northumberland, only Newcastle and Newburn have done so. Your delegates to the Northumberland and Durham Clean Air Committee are not yet satisfied that sufficient smokeless fuels (other than hard coke) are available to supply the needs of the total population in the County.

### **NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960.**

Number of infringements	..	..	..	Nil.
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